



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

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March 7, 2011

To: Water Pollution Control Permit Permittees

From: David Gaskin, PE, Deputy Administrator  
Division of Environmental Protection

Re: Accepted WAD Cyanide Analytical Procedures

Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.424.1.b specifies that the mining groundwater standard for cyanide is 0.2 mg/L weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide (CN) as determined by Method C, Weak Acid Dissociable Cyanide, D2036-082, Part 31 of *American Society of Testing Materials Book of Standards*.

Due to concerns about the use of alternative WAD CN analytical methods, the Division has compared the current ASTM method and the Standard Method to the superseded ASTM method specified in the NAC and determined that these methods are essentially the same. Based on this comparison, the Division will accept data for WAD CN analyses performed at State certified laboratories by the following methods:

ASTM D2036-082, Method C, Part 31;  
ASTM D2036-06, Method C, Parts 16.2, 16.3, and 16.4; or  
SM4500-CN-I.

If additional WAD CN analytical methods are developed and standardized, the Division will evaluate the new procedures to determine whether data obtained with these methods can be accepted without a regulation change.

Analytical methods for CN species other than WAD do not meet the regulatory requirement and cannot be accepted when a WAD CN standard is specified.

If you have any questions regarding acceptable WAD CN analytical procedures, please contact Bruce Holmgren, 775-687-9406, or Karl McCrea, 775-687-9407.

